



Geology Alumni Advisory Board 2024 - 2025

Teleconference Meeting

September 18, 2024, 3:00 pm CST

2024-25 Executive Committee: Chair: Mike Kuykendall; Chair-Elect: John Brett; Secretary: Jake Jones;
Past Chair: Mike Gaskins; Directors-at large: Rebecca Hillman, Barrett Cieutat

Attending: Mike Kuykendall, Brandon Spencer, Rhonda Wilson, Mike Gaskins, Todd Halihan, Nick Colburn, Bart Gaskill, Conn Wethington, Gary Ford, Lawrence Walker, Dylan Morton, Barrett Cieutat, Rick Fritz, Tracy Quan, Jake Jones, Kristie Ferguson

Agenda

A. Introduction – Mike Kuykendall

B. Minutes of prior meeting – Jake Jones

- a. August 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes Approval- Mike Gaskins
 - Seconded- Jake Jones
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C. Chairman Report- Mike Kuykendall

- a. 2024 Fall Faculty / Alumni / Student Retreat at Post Oak Lodge (Oct 12 - 13)
 - Need a confirmed number of people attending to confirm room occupancy.
 - 18 rooms are booked currently
 - 8 faculty attending- FIRM
 - Need to pin down activities for Saturday afternoon downtime (fishing, ropes course, cornhole)
 - Jake will send out Survey Monkey form to gauge interest/attendance
 - Setting RSVP deadline of 9/24/24 to determine if rooms list needs trimmed or expanded
 - Alumni will cover own costs and help defray cost of faculty
 - Current cost \$280/pp if attending and getting double occupancy room, or ~half of that if not getting room.
 - Cost includes meetings, activities, meals, cocktail hour and downtime activities

- b. Ad-Hoc Committees

- Fall Retreat Committee (Need volunteers to help with agenda, etc)
 - Mike Gaskins and Mike Kuykendall will structure agenda prior to retreat
 - Banquet Committee (“Jurassic Luau” theme) – Need Alumni volunteers
 - Students excited to begin planning
 - If interested in joining committee, please contact Mike Kuykendall
- c. 8-14-24 meeting with new CAS Dean (Melinda Cro)
- Mike Kuykendall met with Melinda on campus
 - Very positive meeting and she is open to assisting the AAB

D. BPSoG Interim Head Report – Todd Halihan

- a. New CAS Dean, Melinda Cro, joined first faculty meeting of the year
- b. Image reception in Houston was a success. Feedback highlighted better room, better food/drink, and much lower cost than previous receptions
- c. Job board for the new department head position has been posted. Todd will send Interfolio link to Jake for distribution to alumni
- d. Petroleum companies were on campus in September for info sessions and interviews. They were excited about the significant student turnout.
 - Devon Energy has funded a remodel/redecoration of the basement lab, which has stoked interest from other E&Ps to sponsor department
- e. First half of Boone Pickens' donation has hit for FY. Second half expected by end of December.
 - Kristie will look into why CAS received the Pickens donation instead of direct distribution to BPSoG
 - Donation language entails that BPSoG Dean is supposed to directly receive funding for disbursement
- f. Field Camp Improvements
 - Environmental geoscience concentrated field camp was a success this past summer
 - 10 students attended
 - Will continue to devote resources to this and geophysics field camp
 - ‘Puckete Bucket’ sewage processing system at camp
 - Likely have a donor for majority of funding
 - A current grad student has a personal contact for a sewage infrastructure contractor licensed in Colorado
 - Lodge remodel needs alternative designs- current cost estimates from GH2 deemed unreasonable at \$3.5-\$5 million

- Can the BPSoG receive a waiver from the University on design fees since field camp will not need year-round maintenance from facilities management
 - A tree limb has fallen on the mess hall roof and needs repair. This expense can be covered from the Foundation account.
 - Several more aging cottonwood trees need estimates for removal as these are additional hazards to structures
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E. Standing Committee Reports (as needed)

a. Foundation/Capital Development Committee

- Received \$1.25 million for FY '23-24
 - PhilanthroPete fundraising campaign upcoming (Oct. 27-29)
 - Brandon Spencer is primary student scholarship awarder for Puckette Endowed Scholarship- needs scholarship criteria sent to him
 - Boone Pickens funded an AAPG grant for digital geology development some years back and this has gained money over the years.
 - Rick Fritz will send info on how to apply to Lawrence and Todd
 - The Capital Fund is available to donate for events such as Image reception and Fall Alumni/Faculty Retreat to help defray costs
 - Direct giving option available on OSU Giving
 - The CFR team has engaged ConocoPhillips about ways to provide resources that are *not* directly tied to new/updated facilities (ex. equipment, technology, instruction)
 - Approaching industry donors for field camp improvements needs to be examined- Lawrence Walker
 - Need a final agreed upon budget before moving forward here
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F. New Business

- a. Recent edition of CAS Magazine highlighted the 75th Field Camp Anniversary & Dr. Puckette Retirement Party, as well as Gary Ford being named alumni of the year. Congrats Gary!!
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G. Next Teleconference Meeting (1 month)– Wednesday, October 16, 2024 3 pm CST